GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1152
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
MANAGEMENT OF GARBAGE
Yadav Shri Bhal Chandra

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to separate carbonic and non-carbonic and bio-degradable waste from the garbage before throwing them in landfills and have implemented any scheme/programme in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether these wastes are also thrown into rivers; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to sort out the waste before it reaches the landfills to save the rivers from pollution?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c)The Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified a comprehensive central legislation, the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 (MSW Rules) vide S.O. 908(E) the 25th September, 2000 for the management of Municipal Solid Wastes. These rules provide detailed compliance criteria for the collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes. As per the Rules, local bodies are required to organize awareness programs for segregation of wastes and to provide separate bins for segregated wastes viz. green bins for biodegradable waste, white for recyclable wastes and black for others wastes. In this regard, the local bodies in a few States have also taken initiatives to encourage citizens to segregate wastes and in selected wards/zones of the towns/cities, house-to-house collections have been started.

Further for the setting up of model facilities for the demonstration of management of municipal solid waste for the implementation of MSW Rules, the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Central Pollution Control Board have funded projects at Kozhikode (Kerala), North Dum Dum and New Barrackpore (West Bengal) Union Territory of Chandigarh, Udumalaipet (Tamil Nadu).

(d) & (e) Littering of municipal solid waste as such is prohibited as per the MSW Rules. Besides, under the National River Conservation Plan of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, various pollution abatement works are also undertaken through the concerned State Governments, which include schemes of low cost sanitation, river front development and setting up of crematoria etc.

The local bodies, under MSW Rules are further required to set up waste processing facilities like composting or Waste-to-Energy for utilization of bio-degradable waste/recyclable waste. The main purpose of setting up of processing plants is to reduce the burden of waste disposal on landfills.